The GAZETTE, OF THE State of South-Carolina.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1777. [No. 2055.]

The Publication of *this Gazette* is now resumed, in Compliance with the Public Voice —— and in Confidence that those Gentlemen, who have been pleased to assure the Printer of their utmost Countenance and Support, in the Continuance of it, will not fail to give it: But, as great Difficulties, and a very heavy Expence, have attended the procuring a Stock of Paper (which he has provided to serve for at least *One Twelve Month*) so he finds himself under the Necessity of entirely altering his former Plan of Business,—by raising the Price of the Gazette from *Three Pounds* to *Four Pounds* a Year, and, made up in Packets, from *Four* to *Five Pounds*, *to be paid at the Time of Subscribing*;—and by declining to keep Books for Advertisements or other Printing Work, the former of which must be paid for when brought in, and the latter upon Delivery.

When it is considered, that the Printer has laid out within three Months past upwards of 3000 l. for the single Article of Paper —— that no one Article is now to be obtained on Credit —— that the Price of every Necessary of Life is advanced above 100 *per Cent.* and other Articles still higher —— he flatters himself, that his Terms will not be thought unreasonable; and that he shall not be suspected, of the least Inclination to follow the Example of *those* who are daily taking most shameful Advantages of the Times.

The present Paper is distributed to the Inhabitants generally, that such as choose to be served with it, may, by sending in their Names and Subscription-Money in the Course of the Week, enable the Printer to determine the Number to be printed; and it will then be published EVERY MONDAY Evening regularly, beginning on the 14th Instant.

The following are the latest Advices that have been received here from England.

LONDON, *October* 29.

YESTERDAY a full Board of Ordnance was held, when orders were given for 400 tons of ordnance stores to be got ready with all expedition.

On Monday night Lord Shelburne and Mr. Alderman Townsend arrived in town, after a ten weeks tour together through France.

Extract of a Letter from Portsmouth, Oct. 28.

"Last night press-warrants were sent down here, and it is expected there will be a warm press to-night for Sailors. We are informed that there are 10,000 wanted for immediate service."

On Monday night upon the flood tide, about 20 boats, manned and officered, came up the river from Deptford and Woolwich, when a general press began, and every man was taken on board the several ships they boarded, except the Master and Mate.

On Monday press-warrants were signed and sent off express to all the sea ports in England, for impressing men for his Majesty's service.

Yesterday a full Board of Admiralty was held at the Admiralty-office, Whitehall, at which the Earl of Sandwich was present, and several other Lords, when the returns of the number of men pressed into his Majesty's service on Monday, as near as could be made out, were laid before the Board, which proved to be 3100. Two hundred fresh impress warrants were signed at the Board, and fresh instructions sent off by messengers to Portsmouth, Plymouth, and Chatham, relative to the forwarding the shipping at those places.

The same day several Officers on half pay attended the Board, and received their Commissions, with orders to repair on board their respective ships.

Yesterday there was another hot-press from Gravesend to Rotherhithe, and the gangs picked up a great number of hands, but have driven the West-India captains to great distress, their ships being loaded, and not hands to navigate their vessels, although the merchants had paid their men a month's advance, besides the river pay.

An evening paper says, the way by which government, for a certainty, became acquainted with the designs of France, was as follows:—The Arethusa, on her passage from St. Helena, met with an American ship bound from France to Philadelphia. The vessel finding it impossible to evade being examined, tied her packet to some shot, and attempted to throw it overboard; but by the confusion in which it was done, the papers were entangled in the chains of the ship, and fell into the hands of the Capt. of the Arethusa. One of the papers contained an assurance from the Court of France to the Congress, of being assisted in the spring with twenty men of war of the line, and 16 000 land forces. This intelligence was sent by our Court to Lord Stormont at Paris; and on his Lordship desiring an explanation, he was replied to very coolly; but upon his pressing further for an explicit answer, he was told, that the event would determine what the future conduct of the Court of France would be. This, it is believed, is the occasion of the sudden press, upon a certainty that a war is inevitable.

Letters received by yesterday's post mention, that the press for sailors was as hot on Monday in the several sea-ports in the kingdom as in the Thames; and by accounts received of the number already got and entered, they amounted to about 5000, which is half the number that is wanted.

For the greater expedition of manning the navy, all the felons now on the river, that are able, are to be dispersed on board the men of war fitting out in the different sea-ports.

Orders, it is said, are given for the troops, lately arrived from Stade, to sail to reinforce the garisons of Gibraltar and Mahon.

Extract of a Letter from Limerick, Oct. 18.

"On the receipt of the account of the success of his Majesty's troops at Long Island, Lieut. Col. Campbell ordered the garison under arms in the square opposite to the Bishop of Limerick's house, where they fired three vollies. At night the Bishop gave money for bonfires, and to the soldiers and populace to drink his Majesty's health. The officers, and a number of ladies and gentlemen, were elegantly entertained at dinner by the [*sic*] Bishop."

Last night a Midshipman and a Lieutenant were shot in attempting to press two sailors.

A letter from Portsmouth, dated October 22, says, "We have had a very hot press at this place; they have pressed about 500 men."

Another letter from Portsmouth says, that on Tuesday last in the evening, a hot press began there, but many of the sailors getting intelligence of it went on shore, and ran into the country to secret themselves. Several others set off for London.

From the LONDON GAZETTE.

St. James's, October 30.

His Majesty in Council was this day pleased to order that a general fast should be observed throughout the kingdom of Ireland, upon Friday the 13th day of December next, being the day appointed for the fast in England; and to that end his Majesty hath thought proper to direct the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to cause a proclamation to be forthwith published in that kingdom.

A proclamation of the same purport with the above, is also issued, enjoining the observance of a fast throughout Scotland on the 11th of December next.

EPIGRAM.

Spoken extempore, on reading the Proclamation for a General FAST.

WHAT needs a proclamation for a fast?
If our law-givers were not in such haste,
The business to their hands might soon be done,
And they of censure might no hazard run;
Thro' the expence of armies and a fleet,
We quickly shall have *nothing* left to eat.

Bath, Nov. 4. On Thursday night last there was a general press at Pill and Hungroad, where the gangs took all the sailors on board the outward-bound West-Indiamen, to the number of 60 or 70. A great many sailors left the city the morning before, having received intelligence that press-warrants were come down.

London, Nov 5. It is said, notwithstanding the assurances of the Court of France to the contrary, Lord Stormont has uniformly declared, in his letters, that he thinks war is inevitable, unless the Americans are totally roused this campaign. His lordship has signified the same thing in private to his friends.

A Messenger was on Tuesday night sent off with dispatches for the British Minister at the Court of Portugal.—We hear that the Court hath made a requisition of the ships and troops stipulated by treaty, expecting to be attacked by the Spaniards; but it is said the requisition will not be complied with but in case of an actual attack.

A treaty is concluded with Russia; by which it is stipulated that the Czarina is to send 12 ships of the line into the Mediterranean, under the command of a British Admiral, in case of a war with the house of Bourbon. Seven ships are expected at Portsmouth, from the Baltic, about the 15th of December.

Extract of a Letter from Cork, Nov. 1.

"Press-warrants arrived here and in other parts of Ireland the 28th ult. a general press immediately took place; a great number of seamen have already entered, and hundreds have been impressed."

The transports, with the troops on board from Dublin, arrived at Spithead, are ordered to St. Helen's, to sail under convoy of the men of war there, that are waiting for the West India ships.

The Conquestadore, the ship appointed at the Nore, to receive the volunteers and impressed seamen, had on board last Monday upwards of 1500 men.

Yesterday another tender, with near 300 pressed men, sailed from Tower Wharf for Portsmouth, in order to put them on board the men of war lying there.

Sunday last a Methodist Preacher, as he was holding forth to a numerous audience, was seized by a press-gang, and carried on board a tender.

On Friday night there was a warm press at Hull, when upwards of 200 seamen were picked up.

Last night died of a complication of disorders, that truly excellent comedian, Mr. Edward Shuter.

Nov. 5. *After* the Provincials are driven from King's-bridge, and expelled the province of New-York. *After* a junction of the forces from Canada shall be effected. *After* Washington's army shall be entirely subdued, and the New-England provinces shall be forced to submit; *After* the several batteries on the river Delaware, shall be silenced, *then* may Gen. Howe venture to Philadelphia to treat, sword in hand, with the Congress.

Mr. Rigby, whose *bruising talents* introduced him into life, hath proposed, in the cabinet, a scheme for adjusting all disputes with America. His plan is to decide the quarrel after the Roman fashion, by single combat. Mr. Rigby offers himself as the champion of England. He will box Washington, Lee, or Putnam. This is at least as good a mode of conciliation as that projected by the Howes.

Notwithstanding all the necessary dispatch, which is now employed upon the occasion, it will be full six weeks before the sufficient number of seamen can be obtained to make up the complements of the respective ships which are now ordered into service.

Nov. 9. Yesterday Lord Barrington was at Court, and laid before his Majesty a list of Commissioners for promotions in the army, which were approved of and signed.

Capt. Smith, of the Unity, who arrived at Liverpool last Friday from Bilboa in Spain, and left that place the 24th ult. says, that two American scooner privateers, of eight guns each, sailed from thence the day before; the commanders names were Lee and Fletcher: one of them had taken five prizes, and the other was fitted out at Bilboa, to whom the Spaniards shewed every favour and indulgence possible; one of the five prizes was a transport with 16 guns, called the Nancy, bound from London to some part of America, which they took by stratagem, the captain pretended his vessel to be a packet with dispatches from our court, and invited the captain and his officers to come on board, whom he immediately put in irons. Several vessels besides Capt. Smith were at Bilboa, wanting freight, which they could not take on account of the privateers, the captains having declared they would not touch vessels in ballast.

A letter from Cornwall mentions, that the press has been very hot in the several sea-port towns in that county, and that they have taken a great number of men.

Yesterday a tender with near 160 volunteers and pressed men on board, fell down the river in their way to Portsmouth.

Friday Sir Thomas Hallifax, the Lord Mayor elect, was sworn in at Guildhall.

Nov. 14. In the augmentation intended for the army no new corps is to be added, but only the companies of the present regiments are to be augmented.

Letters from Lynn in Norfolk, mention, that the press has been very hot in that port, and that upwards of 200 men were taken there the first night, which had quite stopped their shipping business.

Yesterday arrived a mail from Lisbon, which was brought over in the Hampden packet, Capt. Braithwaite, after a passage of seven days to Falmouth. Capt. Braithwaite writes word, that he sailed the 31 inst. from Lisbon, and has brought over eight poor distressed subjects, which were part of the crew of the True Briton, Bable, from Newfoundland to a market, that was taken by an American privateer, of eight guns and 12 swivels, called the True Blue, Capt. Cole; who had taken eight other prizes. One of the privateers stopped at Bilboa, but was suffered to depart by order of the Court of Spain; that four American vessels had put into Ferrol, and that the Bay of Biscay was full of American privateers, which mounted from 10 to 14 guns each, besides a great number of swivels.

Orders are said to be given for ten sail of the line and six frigates to rendezvous at Spithead, the beginning of next month.

Extract of a Letter from Southampton, Nov. 11.

"The brig Kingston, Capt. Reveness, is this day arrived in 24 days from Oporto, and brings advice of the arrival there of the brig Ceres, Capt. Squires, in seven days from Bilboa, and that 26 sail of American privateers were there, one of which had taken five sail of English ships on her passage thither, among them was the Susanna, Crawford, from Oporto for London, lately mentioned. The day Capt. Reveness sailed from Oporto an express arrived there from his Majesty's consul at the Groyne, setting forth that four American privateers were then in the harbour of Ferrol, supplying themselves for a cruize. The same day the post from Lisbon brought advice that a schooner of 18 guns, sailing extraordinary fast, had taken several vessels near the rock, one of them a brig laden with corn, after having taken the Pilot on board."

The Isabella, Greenleas, from Borrowstonness, to Minorca; the Carolina, Rutherford, from Newcastle to Gibraltar and Constantinople; and a brig with bale goods, from Liverpool to Antigua, are taken by an American privateer off the coast of Portugal.

On Tuesday the Yankee privateer, with all her stores, which was taken from the Americans, was sold by auction at Old Lloyd's Coffee-house, for 3301. She has been put up twice before, the first time for 4131. second at 4001. and the last time at 3001.

At Manchester and Liverpool the news of the King's forces having taken possession of New-York was received with great demonstrations of joy, such as ringing of bells, bonfires, *burning* some of the American chiefs in effigy, illuminations, &c.

The Common council of Liverpool have ordered a bounty of two guineas to every able seaman, and one guinea to every ordinary seaman, who shall voluntarily enter themselves with the committee to serve on board his Majesty's fleet, before the 31st of December next.

Nov. 16. A plan has lately been laid before the Lords of the Treasury for a more equitable assessment of the land-tax throughout Great-Britain.

A Captain of a Portugal ship, that is arrived from Lisbon, says, that he met with twelve sail of American armed ships in the Bay of Biscay; that he was detained

For the Remainder of the English News, see the 4th Page—and for the Substance of Debates in the British House of Commons, the last Session, see the Supplement.

ABSTRACT of an ACT passed the 23d Day of December, 1776, enabling the Commissioners of the Treasury to take up Money on Interest, for the Use of this State, at Seven per Cent. per Annum; and of another Act for altering and amending the same, passed the 28th of Jan. 1777.

THESE Acts authorise and impower the Commissioners of the Treasury to take up, upon Loan, the Sum therein mentioned, for the Use of this State, from any Person or Persons, Company or Body Corporate, willing to lend the same, within Six Months from the said 28th Day of January, in any Sum or Sums of Money, not less than One Thousand Pounds at a Time, on Interest, at the Rate of Seven per Centum per Annum; for the Repayment whereof and the Interest, the Public Treasury is made liable, and the Faith of the State pledged: which Sums, so lent, may be demanded, and shall be repaid, at the Expiration of Twelve Months from the Day of depositing the same in the Treasury, with the Interest thereon; and at all Times after, on Three Months previous Notice given to the Commissioners of the Treasury by the Party demanding the same; and for which Sums the Commissioners shall give to the respective Lenders, Certificates specifying the Lender's Name, and extending to his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, the Sums lent, the Times when lent, when to be paid, and the Rate of Interest; which Certificates shall be transferable by a short Memorandum on the Back thereof under the Hand and Seal of the Owner, in the Presence of one or more Witnesses. And in Cases where Money shall be deposited in the Treasury for a longer Term than one Year, the Interest is directed to be paid annually. The Treasurers may repay any of the said Sums so lent after the Twelve Months, on giving Three Months previous Notice to the Party who lent the same.

Published by Order of the General Assembly,

PETER TIMOTHY, C. G. A.

Extract of Act passed February 13, 1777, intitled "an Act to revive and continue, for the Time therein limited, the several Acts and Clauses of Acts of the General Assembly of this State, therein particularly mentioned; and to appropriate certain Penalties; and to confirm the Powers of Commissioners of Roads, Paths, Bridges, Creeks, Causeys and Water Passages."

AND be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Commissioners of High Roads and private Roads, or Paths, Bridges, Creeks, Causeys, or for cleansing of Water-passages in this State, or for altering, laying out, cleansing or amending the same, who have hitherto been appointed by Virtue of any Act, or Clause or Clauses of any Act or Acts of the General Assembly now in force, or any such as are revived by this Act, or by Appointment of any Governor of this State hitherto, or by Election in any Parish or District in this State, or by any Resolution of Congress, or who may hereafter be appointed by the President and Commander in Chief of this State for the Time being, with the Advice and Consent of the Privy Council, shall, with or without any written Commission, have and exercise as full and ample Powers and Authorities, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as any Commissioners of High Roads or Private Roads, Paths, Bridges, Creeks, Causeys or Water-passages whatever, have hitherto had, enjoyed or exercised, by Virtue of any Law or Laws, Resolution or Resolutions of Congress, heretofore made for that Purpose.

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners, or a Majority of them, in their several and respective Districts, shall have Power, and they are hereby authorized, if they shall think it expedient, at least once in every Year, to parcel out the High Roads, Causeys, and small Bridges, under their Care and Charge, in equal and just Parcels and Proportions, as near as may be, to and amongst the several Persons liable to work thereon, in such District, and assign to each and every Person and Persons liable to work thereon, his, her, and their respective Parts of the same, which he, she, or they shall be, and is hereby, obliged to keep in Repair, for the Term aforesaid, under the Penalties in the aforementioned Act or Acts, for Neglect or Refusal to work on the High Roads, any Law or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding; and under the further Penalty of *Five Pounds* for every Passenger or other Person who shall receive any Injury by the Badness of such Parts of the said Road, owing to the Neglect of the Party appointed to keep the same in Repair, to be recovered against him or them respectively, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of any Magistrate for the District where the same shall happen.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in Case any of the Commissioners already nominated or appointed, or hereafter to be nominated or appointed as aforesaid, shall refuse to act, or neglect his Duty, he and they shall forfeit and pay the Sum of *One Hundred Pounds* current Money, to be sued for, and recovered, against the said Commissioners or Commissioner, jointly or separately, at the Election of the Prosecutor, one half to be applied to the Use of the State, and the other half to him or them who shall sue for the same.

Published by Order of the General Assembly,

PETER TIMOTHY, C. G. A.

PARAGRAPH of an ORDINANCE passed by the General Assembly of the State of South-Carolina, on the 14th Day of February, 1777.

AND whereas some evil minded Persons, inimical to the Liberties of the United States of America, have endeavoured to depreciate the Bills of Credit of this State; To prevent which, *Be it further Ordained by the Authority aforesaid*, That if any Person, within this State, shall attempt to depreciate or undervalue any of the Bills of Credit aforesaid, by offering, demanding, or receiving more, in any of the said Bills, in Exchange for Spanish milled Dollars, or other Coins of Gold or Silver, or Bullion, at the Value in Proportion to Dollars, at which they pass in this State, or at which they are or may be fixed by the Congress of the United States of America; or by offering, demanding, or receiving, directly or indirectly, a greater Sum, in any of the said Bills, for any Houses, Lands, Goods or Commodities whatsoever, than the same could be purchased at, of the same Person or Persons, in Gold or Silver Money; or whoever shall sell, or offer to sell, House, Land, or any Kind of Commodity for Specie, and shall refuse to sell and dispose of the same, for any of the said Bills; every such Person so offending, shall forfeit the full Value of the Money so exchanged, or the Houses, Lands, Goods or Commodities so sold, or offered to Sale; one Half to the Use of this State, and the other Half to any Person who shall sue for and prosecute the same to Effect, to be recovered by Bill or Plaint, in Court of Record in this State.

Published by Order of the General Assembly,

PETER TIMOTHY, C. G. A.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

An ORDINANCE to repeal a Resolution passed by Congress, on the Eleventh Day of January, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and to prescribe a Mode for the securing and recovering of Debts.

WHEREAS, by a Resolution passed by Congress, at Charles Town, on the eleventh Day of January, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, it was provided, That no Action for any Debt should be commenced in the Court of Common Pleas of this Colony (now State) nor such Action pending there, which was commenced since the then last September Return, be proceeded in, without the Consent of the Committee of the Parish or District in which the Defendant resided. *And whereas* such Restraint was laid in Favour of Debtors, who had contracted Debts having an Opportunity of satisfying those Engagements by the ready Sale of their Commodities, and therefore it was but equitable, that they ought not to have been distressed by Suits for such Engagements, when the Welfare of America occasioned such Public Measures to be adopted as deprived such Debtors of the Ability of paying their Debts. *And whereas*, by the Blessing of God, many of the Commodities of this State are again of as ready Sale as heretofore. *And whereas* the Restriction contained in the said Resolution is found to be very detrimental to the Creditor, by Reason of the great Distance at which, in many Cases, he must apply to obtain good Security or Permission to sue for his Debts; or by Reason that Committees in many Places do not meet for the Dispatch of such Business, or occasion great Delays therein, to the Prejudice of the Creditor's. *And whereas*, such Difficulties in the Way of Trade, will be very prejudicial to the Public Good, injurious to the Creditor, and encouraging to dishonest Debtors to abuse their Creditors: For Remedy whereof, *Be it Ordained*, by His Excellency JOHN RUTLEDGE, Esquire, President and Commander in Chief of the State of South-Carolin, by the Honourable the Legislative Council, and by the General Assembly of the said State, and by the Authority of the same, That all that Part of the said Resolution, restraining Suits at Law, be, and it is, hereby repealed, and in Liew thereof, it is provided and ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Suit shall be instituted and carried on against any Debtor as aforesaid, and it shall appear that the Defendant did, before the Commencement of the said Suit, offer to the Plaintiff good and sufficient Security for the Debt sued, and also Payment of the Interest due upon it, being thereunto required by the Plaintiff, or his Attorney, or his Agent, at least fifteen Days before the Commencement of the Suit, in such Case, the Defendant, in Court, giving good and sufficient Security for the Debt sued, and paying the Interest thereon, the Plaintiff shall be nonsuited, paying Costs: But in Case the Defendant, after being thereunto required as aforesaid, not having offered such Security and Payment as aforesaid, before the Commencement of the Suit, offers such Security and Payment as aforesaid, pending the Suit; such said Security and Payment, being given and made in Court, the Suit shall be dismissed, and the Defendant shall pay the Costs.

And whereas the Troubles in America, may have in many Cases prevented the Institution of Suits for the Recovery of Debts, agreeable to the Limitation Act, *Be it therefore Ordained*, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Act of Limitation shall not bar any Suits for Debts, but such as were by that Act barred, on or before the said eleventh Day of January one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, nor shall the Limitation Act be construed to bar any other Suits, until the Expiration of twelve Months after the passing of this Ordinance.

And be it further Ordained, by the Authority aforesaid, That wherever a Creditor has good Reason to suspect, that his Debtor is about to withdraw, or depart from this State, without paying his Debt, or giving good Security for the same, that in all such Cases, such Creditor, upon an Affidavit, verifying the Truth of such Suspicion, shall be at Liberty immediately to commence a Suit for the Recovery of such Debt, and to carry on such Suit to Judgment and Execution, unless the Defendant shall, pending the Suit, pay the Debt and Costs, or pay the Interest and Costs, and give good and sufficient Security for the Payment of the Principal, in either of which Cases such Suit shall be discontinued.

Published by Order of the General Assembly,

PETER TIMOTHY, C. G. A.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

Shirley and Price vs. *Stewart Nicoll.* } In the Common Pleas. DEBT on ATTACHMENT.

WHEREAS the Plaintiff in this Action, did, on the 20th of February, 1777, file his Declaration in the Office of the Clerk of this Honourable Court, against the Defendant, who is absent from, and without the Limit of, this State, and having neither Wife nor Attorney known within the said State, upon whom a Copy of the said Declaration, with a Rule to plead thereto within a Year and a Day, might be served: It is therefore Ordered, in Pursuance of the Act of Assembly in that Case made provided, That the said Defendant do appear and plead the said Declaration, on or before the 22d Day of February, which shall be in the Year of our Lord 1778, otherwise final and absolute Judgment will then be given and awarded against him. WILLIAM MASON, C. C. P.

Office of Common-Pleas, Feb. 20, 1777.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

John Simpson and Co. vs. *James Penman.* } In the Common Pleas. CASE on ATTACHMENT.

WHEREAS the Plaintiff in this Action, did the 20th Day of February, 1777, file his Declarations in the Office of the Clerk of this honourable Court, against the Defendant, who is absent from and without the limits of this State, and having neither Wife or Attorney known within the said State, upon whom a Copy of the said Declaration, with a Rule to plead thereto, within a Year and a Day, might be served: It is therefore ordered, in Pursuance of the Act of Assembly, in that Case made and provided, That the said Defendant do appear and plead to the said Declaration, on or before the 17th Day of March, which shall be in the Year of our Lord 1778, otherwise final and absolute Judgment will be given and awarded against him.

WILLIAM MASON, C. C. P.

FRENCH TONGUE.

MRS. SODY presents her Compliments to the Ladies and acquaints them, that she has taken a House in Tradd-Street, next Door to Mrs. Dewar's, where she intends to teach the FRENCH LANGUAGE.—She solicits their Favours, in hopes her Pronunciation, Mode, and Assiduity, will, upon Trial, merit Encouragement.

South-Carolina, Camden District. WHEREAS the Subscriber did, about the 19th of December last, purchase a Tract of Land from a certain Hugh Stewart, of said District, Blacksmith; which Tract was to contain One Hundred Acres, and in Consequence whereof Bonds were given by both Parties; since the doing of which the Subscriber finds he has not the Complement of Acres agreed for, therefore he

Gives this Public Notice, to all Persons whom it may concern,

Not to contract, bargain or purchase his Bond given to said Stewart, bearing Date the 19th of December, 1776, payable Twelve Months after Date, the Dignity Two Hundred Pounds currency, as he will not be answerable for any Contract founded on the Ability of that Bond, until he is made whole by said Stewart. JOHN GILL.

ALL Persons indebted to the Estate of JOHN DANER, late of St. Bartholomew's Parish deceased, are desired to make Payment forthwith, to the Subscriber; and those who have Demands against the said Estate, are to bring them in properly attested to

ELEANOR DANER, Administratrix,
JOHN VERLIN, Administrator.

FOUND in Meeting-Street, before the Door of John Edwards, Esq; A GOLD SLEEVE BUTTON. The Owner may have it again, by applying to the Printer hereof, on paying for this Advertisement.

To be SOLD,

In St. Matthew's Parish, the last Tuesday in April, 1777, PART of the Estate of MOSES VANCE, deceased, consisting of Household Furniture, and Six Negroes.

SAMUEL TATE, Executor.

P. S. The Conditions will be made known on the Day of Sale.

THE Subscriber acquaints his old Customers and others, that he now has, and purposes constantly to keep ready, a sufficient Quantity of

Drawing Boot Legs,

Not inferior to any ever imported, which he makes at his Old Shop in Union-street continued, for Ready Money.

He will either purchase or take apprentice one or two Negro Boys, to learn the Shoe-making Business.

JOHN MATTHEWS.

To be LET on a Lease, up the Path,

A Vacant Lot of Land, allowed to be superior to any in the State for a Ship Yard; adjoining Mr. John Russel's Ship-Yard.—For the Terms apply to the Subscriber, at his Plantation near the same.

JAMES DARBY.

MR. Perdriau informs me of a Brown Bay Horse, 12 Hands and a half high, branded on the mounting Buttock, but rather obscure. The Owner may prove his Property at Dorchester, before W. MORGAN.

March 31, 1777.

JOHN-JAMES HAIG, Esq; informs me, of a light Chesnut pacing Horse, with a Star in his Forehead, about 13 Hands and an half high, 8 or 9 Years old, and branded on the off Buttock C. C.—The Owner of the said Horse must apply, within the Time prescribed by Law, and manifest his Property before

Congaree, March 10, 1777. PHILIP PEARSON.

October 4, 1776.

BROUGHT before me, to be tolled, by JOHN BOSSON, A BLACK MARE, about 12 Hands and an half high, branded on the mounting Shoulder and Buttock, I. C. taken up between Ashepoo and Jacksonburgh. The Owner must prove his Property before me, in St. Bartholomew's Parish.

CHARLES SHEPHEARD.

JOSEPH PRICHARD informs me of a Bay Horse, 13 Hands high, and about ten Years old: Also an Iron Gray Filly, neither docked or branded, 12 Hands high. The Owner may have them by proving their Property before JOSEPH BRAILSFORD.

January 6, 1777.

ROBERT PATTERSON, of Ninety-Six District, near Fort Charlotte, tolls before me, a bright Bay Mare, with a Blaze in her Face, about nine Years old, near thirteen Hands high, paces and trots, branded on the off Shoulder and Buttock thus O, and on the near Shoulder TWWF, blotted, and has the Appearance of having been cut with an Ax in the Withers; she had a Bell on.

Also a Black Mare, with a little white Star in her Forehead, and some Saddle Spots, trots, and is near twelve Hands high, is branded on the Cheek B. E. on the Shoulder M. and on the Buttock L. D. all on the mounting Side: They both came to his Plantation, the Beginning of January 1776, since which the Black Mare has had a Colt, and the Bay Mare has lost one.

Likewise a Brown Bay Mare, who also trots, is remarkably low before, has a small Star, is about twelve Hands and an half high, near nine Years old, branded on the mounting Shoulder M. G. and another unintelligible Brand on the off Shoulder: She has with her a Bay, Two-year old, Horse Colt, with a long Star, one white Foot, neither docked nor branded; they came into the Range, near Fort Charlotte, the latter End of the Year 1775. The Property must be proved before

GEORGE WHITEFIELD.

Ninety-Six District, Feb. 6, 1777.

Connor's-Creek, Fork of Broad and Saludy Rivers.

GEORGE DAWKINS of Broad-River, informs me of a small Sorrel Horse, supposed to be about twelve Years old, with a Star in his Forehead, twelve Hands high, branded on his mounting Buttock I. S. or I. S. The Owner must prove his Property, within the Time prescribed by Law, before me, MICHAEL DICKERT, J. P.

February 11, 1777.

BALTIMORE, January 27.

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman, dated

"This day the body of the worthy and brave General Mercer was brought to this city, and interred with the

[illegible] honours.

or rather murder, of this gentleman was a gallant officer and virtuous citizen. His body covered with wounds and mangled by our savage enemies, was exposed to public view. After he had surrendered himself, and had been carried into an house, he acquainted the enemy, that he was a General in the service of the United States; deaf to the voice of humanity and the law of nations, they stabbed him with a bayonet, and with the butt end of a musket battered and disfigured his face. A Captain having received a bullet in each thigh, became a prisoner, but, on being informed that he was an officer, he was shot in the breast, languished five days and then died, having testified on oath to this unmanly and barbarous conduct."

Extracts of Letters from Princeton and Philadelphia, dated January 7 and 15.

"Among the officers of the enemy killed at Princeton, is a Capt. Leslie, nephew to General Leslie, and second son to the earl of Leven. He was an accomplished officer. General Washington buried him with the honours of war.

"Lieutenant Yates of Col. Read's Virginia regiment, died on Friday last at Princeton. The circumstances of his death merits attention: In the action on the 3d instant, he received a wound in his side, which brought him to the ground. Upon seeing the enemy advance towards him, he begged for quarter; a British soldier stepped, and after deliberately loading his musket by his side, shot him through the breast. Finding that he was still alive, he stabbed him in thirteen places with his bayonet; the poor wretch all the while crying for mercy. Upon the enemy being forced to retreat, either the same or another soldier, finding he was not dead, struck him with a butt of a musket on the side of his head. He languished a week in the greatest anguish, and then died (I declare it upon my honour, as a man and a physician) of the wounds he received after he fell and begged for quarter. The savages murdered a Clergyman (chaplain to a regiment of militia) in cold blood at Trenton, after he had surrendered and begged for mercy; his name was Rosborough. It is a profanation of language and truth, to attribute a fibre of humanity to General Howe's heart; the nature of the service he has engaged in has made him a mere Jeffries for every species of political iniquity. I write from good information, having picked up a number of anecdotes which justify the picture I have given of him.

By the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of* MARYLAND,

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS sundry inhabitants of Somerset and Worcester counties, through the sinister arts of wicked and designing men, have been betrayed into dangerous and high-criminal offences against the government of this State, [illegible] founded on the authority of the people, in opposing the power and measures of Congress, in supporting by word and deed the dominion of the British crown, and the authority of parliament, obstructing the recruiting service, and holding a traitorous correspondence with the open enemies of this and other the United States, and forgetting the duties which they owe to themselves as freemen, to this State as citizens, have even threatened with impious and unnatural war their countrymen and brethren, and for this purpose have actually collected an armed force, and by erecting the standard of the King of Great-Britain, have invited the common enemy into their country: Insurrection therefore, to those unhappy and deluded people and to prevent the effusion of kindred blood, the General Assembly have issued this Proclamation, exhorting them to return to a due obedience to the laws of their country, and requiring them to disperse immediately, and within forty days from the date hereof, to repair to the commanding officer at such times and places in the counties of Somerset and Worcester, as he shall direct, and there and there deliver up, to the persons appointed to receive them, all their fire and side arms, and take the oath of allegiance and fidelity to this State, prescribed by the form of government. Upon a strict compliance with these conditions, it is hereby declared, and the PUBLIC FAITH SOLEMNLY PLIGHTED, that the offenders aforesaid shall not only be pardoned for all the above offences, and for all others of the like nature heretofore committed against this state, but be protected by the laws, authority, and power thereof, and secured in as full and ample enjoyment of their religious and civil rights, as any of its inhabitants; and, moreover, that their grievances (if any) shall be heard, and speedily redressed. But, as a terror to others, and to prevent such dangerous and unnatural combinations in future, the persons whose names are hereunto annexed are excepted from every benefit or advantage which they might otherwise have claimed by virtue of this proclamation.

Andrew Francis Cheney, Hamilton Callallo, Whittington Turpin, Thomas Moore, Staughton Maddox, Thomas Malcolm, Levy Langford, Josephus Beall, Thomas Hollett, junior, Angelo Atkinson, Jesse Gray, William Hollett, John Odell Hart, and the Rev. Mr. Bowie.

Read and assented to by the house of delegates, this 13th day of February, in the year of our LORD 1777.

T. SPRIGG WOOTTON, S. H. D.

Senate, read and assented to.

DAN. OF ST. THO. JENIFER, P. S.

Messrs. A. F. Cheney, John Hart, and the Rev. Mr. Bowie, mentioned in the above proclamation, are taken into custody.

We hear that the "vapouring insurgents" of the Eastern shore, as we expected, deserted their "ignoble colours" and resumed the SPADE and HOE, "which they gratefully had laid aside." Several dangerous persons have been taken into custody, and properly secured. Many discover such marks of penitence, that they will, undoubtedly, avail themselves of the clemency of government. Part of the troops sent against them, have since returned to join General Washington. It is said, the independent company of this town have had the pleasure of restoring the abandoned King's colours; and our paladin General Smallwood, having fuller powers than the late commissioners, is now employed in accepting submissions, and dispensing REAL pardons for REAL crimes.

Extract of a Letter from the State of Rhode-Island.

"The Tories at Newport, in general fare ill the better the friends to our cause. I am very certain almost every one of them have soldiers quartered in their houses, insulted, and abused, if it were possible, in some measure adequate to their deserts. You may be assured they have been inviting, soliciting, and petitioning Mr. Howe to take possession of the island and town a long time before it was done, and we have the greatest reason to believe they were made acquainted with every circumstance, and the time of the troops embarking at New York.

"The Monday and Tuesday before they arrived, the sexton of the high Jacobitish church (which had been shut up since the resolve of Congress, that prayers for the King, &c. should be omitted in the church service) was employed in cleaning every part of it; and it was whispered about that they should soon perform public worship in its *purity*.—The first Sunday after the British troops had taken possession of the town, Sawney preached from these words, "The Lord hath delivered us, and we are glad."—You may form what ideas you please of this Scotch *Lord*'s discourse, but wormwood and gall was too mild for rebels, fire and brimstone not more than they deserved."

NEW LONDON, Jan. 24.

The following is an Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman of honour and distinction, a prisoner in New-York, dated the 26th of Dec. 1776.

"The distress of the prisoners cannot be communicated by words; 20 or 30 die every day; they lie in heaps unburied: what numbers of my countrymen have died by cold and hunger, perished for want of the common necessaries of life! This, Sir, is the boasted *British Clemency* (I myself had well nigh perished under it.) The New-England people can have no idea of such barbarous policy; nothing can stop such treatment but retaliation. I ever despised private revenge, but that of the public must be in this case just and necessary; it is due to the manes of our murdered countrymen, and that alone can protect the survivors, in the like situation. Rather than experience again their barbarity and insults, may I fall by the sword of the Hessians."

CHARLES-TOWN, April 9.

WE have the Pleasure to inform our Readers, that the Levies for the CONTINENTAL ARMY, which no longer consists of *Militia*, occasionally called out, and dismissed at certain short Periods, but of Men who engage *to serve to the End of the present Contest*, have been made with amazing Rapidity: That it is now amply provided (which was far from being the Case last Year) with *Cloathing*, good Arms and Ammunition, light Brass Field Pieces, and almost every other Requisite: And that, the Soldiery have such Confidence in, and so great an Affection for, General WASHINGTON, that it is their common Opinion, "He was born for the Salvation of America"—so that, it is not unlikely, the present Year's Campaign may be opened early in May, and the Strength and Courage of both Parties fairly tried before the ensuing Winter.

Notwithstanding the many pompous Accounts published to the World, in *Hugh Gaine's New York Mercury* and the *London Gazettes*, of signal Victories gained, important Conquests made (of Places that were *abandoned* by *raw* and *scarcely armed* Troops, because found *untenable* against a *well-provided*, and *then* greatly *superior Force*, such as, Staaten Island, Long-Island, New-York and Rhode-Island) and the rapid Progress of the British Arms in America, calculated to delude an infatuated People, upon the Brink of Ruin, who have been induced even to make public Rejoicings.—We are assured, that General Howe's Army, since the Beginning of August last, has, by Deaths, Desertion, Killed and Prisoners, been reduced, from 26,000 to 17,000 Men (of whom a considerable Number are said to be in Hospitals) and those, unavoidably, so posted, that he cannot possibly collect above 12,000 together in one Body, for the Purpose of spreading Ruin and Desolation throughout this Continent. This being the Situation of the British Army, it is thought by some, that General Howe will be difficulted, and rather studious, to preserve the vast Magazines he had collected at Brunswick, than to prosecute further offensive Operations—for, the Head-Quarters of General WASHINGTON were, according to the last Accounts, at *Morris-Town*, in the Jerseys, within thirty Miles of Brunswick; of General PUTNAM, at *Princeton*, only seventeen Miles from the same Place; and of General HEATH, near *Kingsbridge*, about fourteen Miles from New-York—and General Howe had then only 10,500 Men at Brunswick, including 2000 lately recalled from Rhode-Island, where the remaining 3000 are closely watched by General Lincoln. Others affect to believe, that the General will make an early and vigorous Effort to seize on the City of Philadelphia. But, the most probable Conjecture is, that he will endeavour, if it should be in his Power, to re-imbark the Troops employed in the Jerseys, at Amboy, proceed to New-York, there re-imbark the Rest, abandon that Place, and move, by Sea, *more Southwardly*; where every Preparation is making, should he present himself, to receive and salute him in a Manner suitable to his Rank and Errand.

Part of the half-starved garison of St. Augustine, under the command of Lieutenant Col. Valentine Fuser, with a body of Indians, and Irregulars, led by a certain Mr. Brown, and some field pieces, lately made an effort, to procure some *fresh meat* from Georgia, by a sudden irruption into the Southern part of that state. They conquered a small Rockade fort, unprovided with cannon, and garisoned by about 30 men, at Satilla: They kept possession of it three days, till they heard that some Continental troops and militia were on march to intercept them, then burnt the fort, and returned to the place from whence they were sent.—*The glories of this important enterprize, we shall, without doubt, in due time, see fully displayed in the New-York Mercury and London Gazette.*

One of the gallies belonging to the state of Georgia, has, since the above affair, taken a schooner in St. Mary's river, laden with rice in bulk, destined for St. Augustine.

The 30th ult. sailed from this Port, cleared for St. Eustatius, the sloop Diana, of Bermuda, Henry Tucker Master, having on board near 400 Barrels of Rice, upwards of 6000 lb. of Indico, and the following Passengers, viz. *James Simpson*, Esq; late Clerk of the King's Council and Attorney General, Dr. *Alexander Baron*, and Mr. *William Carson*, late a Merchant of this Town.

The Rutledge Privateer of this Port, commanded by Capt. Jacob Milligan, has lately carried into a safe Port, a Brigantine of 10 Guns, from the Coast of Guiney, with 92 Slaves, a large Quantity of Elephants Teeth, &c. which he took almost under the Guns of a Fort at Barbadoes, and in Sight of several Vessels at Anchor, one of which, supposed a Man of War, weighed and gave him Chace.

Writs have been issued, for electing Members of the General Assembly, to fill up Vacancies which have happened in the following Parishes and Districts, viz.

One for Charles Town, in the Room of the Hon. Thomas Heyward, jun. Esq; who had been elected for Charles-Town, and also for St. Helena.

One for St. Paul's Parish, in the Room of Isaac Hayne, Esq; who declined serving.

One for St. John's, in Colleton-County, in the Room of James Clark, Esq; who likewise declined serving.

One for St. Stephen's, where two Candidates had equal Votes.

One for St. Mathews, in the room of Col. Richard Richardson, who made his election for St. James, Goose-Creek.

Two for Prince George, Winyah, in the room of Daniel Horry, Esq; who made his election for St. James, Goose-Creek, and of Elias Horry, jun. Esq; who declared serving.

One for Prince Frederick's, in the room of William Wilson, Esq; who likewise declined serving.

One for St. David's, in the room of the Hon. Alexander Mc'Intosh, Esq; elected into the Legislative Council. And

One for Ninety-six District, in the room of the Hon. Le Roy Hammond, Esq; also elected into the Legislative Council.

All the Elections are to be on Tuesday and Wednesday the 22d and 23d Instant, except for the Parish of St. John in Colleton County, which last is appointed to be on Monday and Tuesday the 26th and 27th Days of May next.

Hemp is very much wanted here.—If those who have any will bring it to Market, they may obtain a good Price for it.

Able Negro Men are also wanted, to be employed on the Public Works. Those who can spare such, will do well to send them to Town, where they may receive *Ten Shillings* per Day Hire for common Labourers, and Provisions found them, and for Carpenters more in Proportion.

ON Wednesday the 7th of May, will be sold by Public Outcry, at Mr. Strickland's,

Upwards of 30 valuable Slaves,

mostly this Country born, among whom are, a complete Pair of Sawyers, a jobbing Carpenter and Indico-maker, handy Boys and Girls, &c. Credit will be given to the 1st of January, 1778, paying Interest, and giving Bond with approved Security.

WEBB and BENTHAM.

To be SOLD, at Private Sale,

THE House and Lot where the Subscriber lately lived, in Ansonborough, containing in Front of King-street, one hundred Feet, and in Depth to Wentworth-street, one hundred and fifty Feet. On the Premises are, a very neat Dwelling-House, in complete repair, a large Store-Room, Kitchen, Wash-House, Wood-House, Chair-House and Stable, large enough to contain two Chairs and three Horses, a Well of exceeding good Water, and a large Garden, at present filled with a Variety of Vegetables and Fruit Trees.—If not sold by the 5th of May, it will then be put up and sold at Public Sale, at Webb and Bentham's Vendue Store, in Broad-street.

JAMES BENTHAM.

Also to be Let, a Pew in the North-Gallery of St. Michael's Church.

STRAYED or Stolen, the 26th of January last, off Charles-Town-Green,

A full aged, dark-bay Gelding,

About 14 Hands high, branded on the mounting Shoulder M P L in one Piece, and on the off Buttock a rough Brand, somewhat like A Y. Whoever will give Intelligence of him, so that he may be had again, shall receive Five Pounds Reward. JAMES WRIGHT.

STOLEN from the Subscriber on Wednesday the 8th of January last, from Mr. George Livingston's Plantation, at the Four Holes,

A White Gelding,

Near 14 Hands high, rising 7 Years old, branded on the mounting Sholder and Buttock WL, paces, trots, and canters. Whoever delivers the Horse to the Subscriber in Charles-Town, shall receive a Reward of twenty Pounds, currency, and a further Reward of Fifty Pounds on Conviction of the Thief, to be paid by

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON,

till they examined his papers and cargo, and then they suffered him to proceed on his voyage, after taking out some wine.

The 7th regiment of foot, late Robert Bertie's, is disposed of to Col. Prescot, who was taken prisoner by the Provincials at Montreal, but since exchanged for Gen. Sullivan.

An extract of a letter from Corke says, that some of the most capital houses there have received undoubted assurances of a French war, and that the French are making the most vigorous and secret preparations for a grand stroke against this kingdom.

It is said the ministry have an intention of taking the management of all the turnpikes of the kingdom into their hands, and that they intend doing so this very session of parliament. By adding this new and great power to the crown, the influence of it will be much increased all over the nation. The next step of this nature, which, it is said, the ministry think of taking, is to put the management of all the public charities of the kingdom into the hands of the crown.

Six millions extraordinary will be wanted for the service of the ensuing year.

All the Constables of the different Wards of this city received orders yesterday to be very careful to do their duty, in clearing the streets, lanes, and alleys, of loose and disorderly fellows: Also to examine all houses of ill repute and public-houses, to take up all suspected persons, and carry them before the Lord Mayor, or any other of the Magistrates of this city, that such as are found fit for his Majesty's service, and cannot give a good account of themselves, may be sent on board the tenders immediately. This scheme his Lordship thinks will answer the purpose, and be of more service to the community than the method of pressing, and free the City of gangs of thieves that are lurking about in different places.

Extract of a Letter from Plymouth, Nov. 12.

"Since my last arrived at this port the Amiable, Nase, from Newfoundland, in 27 days; and the Union, Young, from Jersey, with one large tender, with about 400 pressed men from Ireland."

Nov. 16. The Americans are remarkably caressed in the most open manner by all the French inhabitants in the West-Indies. The encouragement they receive is incredible. They even beat up for voluntiers, sailors, for the American service, in Martinico, at noon-day, with fife and drum. Of this I myself have been an eye-witness.

Extract of a Letter from Liverpool, to a Gentleman at Glasgow, dated Nov. 2.

"Our town is a scene of confusion and distress: All our hopes of festivity, in consequence of the wished-for arrival of our West-India ships, are changed to uproar, &c. for press-warrants came here yesterday from London. Our fleets were immediately infested with press-gangs, who hauled on board almost every creature they found in them. Our Theatre Royal was going on with great prospect of success, as Mr. Digges, the manager of the stage in Edinburgh, had agreed to play four nights here in his return to Scotland; and further advantages were likely to accrue by the coming of our expected fleet: But these prospects were all blighted; the sailors have left the city by shoals, and the gallery, which forms the greatest part of the audience in the Theatre, at this time of the year, is deserted. The ships that arrive, land their crews long before they come near the harbour, and the poor tars are forced, after a long voyage, to fly from their families into the country for protection. The situation of those poor people form a scene of sorrow and anxiety. The Mayor of this city has issued an advertisement, that those people who have fled the place for fear of being impressed, may return and be assured of safety within its liberties: But this, it is thought, will be of little effect while the warrants are in force."

Nov. 21. It passed unanimously in the Court of Aldermen "that the thanks of this Court be given to the Right Hon. John Sawbridge, late Lord Mayor of this city, for his diligent and faithful discharge of the various duties of that important office; for his steady and impartial administration of justice; for his zealous defence of the rights and franchises of this great city, and the constant protection he gave to all its inhabitants; for refusing the sanction of his authority to illegal press-warrants; and for his politeness, deference, and attention to the Members of this Court, during the whole course of his mayoralty."

The following is a fact:—A gentleman of fortune near Cirencester, in Gloucestershire, having drank himself into a dropsy, his Physicians informed him, as their *ultimatum*, that he must submit to the operation of tapping: To which he consented; but when the faculty came to perform the operation, he said, "Stop, gentlemen, I cannot agree to be tapped here, for nothing that has been tapped in this house ever lasted long: but I'll go to a friend's house in Berkshire;" whither he was carried in a litter, underwent the operation, and was perfectly cured.

Yesterday the Earl of Buckinghamshire kissed his Majesty's hand at St. James's, on being appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in the room of the Earl of Harcourt, to whom a messenger was yesterday dispatched with letters of recall, from Lord Viscount Wey-mouth's office.

Yesterday Admiral Keppel kissed the King's hand, on being appointed to the command of the fleet of observation.

A report is current, that in consequence of some dispatches received from Lord Grantham at Madrid, his Lordship, by his particular request, is recalled.

Letters received in town confirm that a number of American privateers have been seen off the western coasts of Ireland, in order to intercept the trading vessels between Bristol and Corke. In consequence of which insurances have rose one per cent.

Yesterday his Majesty went in state to the house of peers, attended by the Duke of Ancaster and the Earl of March, and gave his assent to a bill entitled, An act for granting to his Majesty a tax of FOUR SHILLINGS in the pound upon all lands, places, pensions, and hereditaments within England, Wales, and Berwick upon Tweed, for the service of the year 1777; and that a proportionable cess, according to the 9th article of the treaty of union, be laid upon Scotland.

A gentleman who arrived at Dublin from Bourdeaux the 31st inst. which place he left about nine days before, says that a fleet of American ships, consisting of 15 sail, had just proceeded on their voyage from the river Garro for America, with all sorts of military stores, and a gre number of French officers and engineers, under convoy a French man of war.

They write from Paris, that a certain Scotch office having imprudently expressed a desire of affronting Sil Dean, ambassador from the American Congress, was pr vented by an order of the Court, authorising the putti him under arrest; but that, through the good offices a generous interposition of Mr. Dean, the Scotchman, af proper concessions, was discharged.

Hague, Oct. 29. The English Ambassador hath r quested, by order of the King his Master, a renewal the prohibition, which is near expired, forbidding all o subjects to furnish warlike ammunition to the confed rated colonies of North-America.

London, Nov. 12. They write from Paris, that the king o France is borrowing in all his dominions very large sum of money; all the cities and fiefs of the nobles are requir ed to contribute to this loan, according to their abilities the clergy have also not been forgot on this occasion.

According to Mr. Burke, the city of New York wa fired by a woman. In the debate on Thursday he gav the subsequent account of that matter: One miserabl woman, with her single arm, did *that* which an army o a hundred thousand men could not do. This miserabl being was found in a cellar, buried in combustibles, in or der to fire New-York, and die in its ashes; she was brough forth, and knowing that she would be condemned to die upon being asked her purpose, said, *To fire the city!* an was determined to omit no opportunity of doing wha her country called for.

Extract of a Letter from Portsmouth, Nov. 8

"Sailed the Hornet sloop of war, Captain Hass-ell, t press the sailors out of the homeward ships in the channe

The harbour of Brest is shut against the admission o those persons who make curiosity a plea for bestowing muc attention upon the naval preparations; a noble lord (S— was thereby prevented from gaining that minute intelli gence which his lordship went in search of; nay, it i there asserted, that he very narrowly escaped being apprehended as a spy.

On Tuesday arrived at Plymouth the Screena, Captain Kingdom, from Saloe; and the Blessing, Capt. Northcoate, with about 300 pressed men from Ireland.

Yesterday advice was received from Glasgow, that they had met with great success in their press there, and had put on board a vessel upwards of 200 men, and sent them for London.

By a return of the number of impressed men and voluntеers now on board the guardships, it appears, that several hundreds are still wanting to make up the complements for the men of war already in commission.

We hear, that besides the fleet now getting ready at Portsmouth and Plymouth, to sail for the Brazils to watch the motions of the Spaniards, who, it is said, are going there to strike a blow on the Portuguese settlements, which Great-Britain by guaranty of treaty is under an obligation to protect, a fleet is at the same time getting ready to cruize off Rochfort, Brest and Toulon, to watch the motion of the French Fleets sailing from those ports. Both the British fleets are to be ready to sail at the same time.

Extract of a Letter from Paris, Nov. 1.

"War is talked of here more than ever. Advices from Spain say, that there is no hope of an accommodation with Portugal. The Spanish fleet now at anchor at Cadiz is ready to sail. This fleet consists of eight Ships of the line, six frigates, four bomb galliots, some chebecks, and between 130 and 200 transport vessels, 16,000 infantry and 800 cannoniers, exclusive of a proper quantity of warlike ammunition.

An American corsair last week took an English ship off Lisbon.

Edinburgh, November 12.

The Lord Provost and Magistrates of the city of Edinburgh, being resolved to give their assistance for encouraging seamen to enter themselves on board his Majesty's ships of war, by increasing the bounty offered by the Magistrates in January and March last, the benefit of which many did accept, to the furtherance of his Majesty's service, have offered, over and above his Majesty's bounty, two guineas to every able seaman, and one guinea to every ordinary seaman, who shall, on or before the 31st of December next, appear in the Council-chamber, and voluntarily enter himself to serve in the royal navy.

London, Nov. 19. On Saturday the Earl of Bute and Lord North were sent for by his Majesty, and had the honour of being closeted more than two hours.

Lord Cathcart is appointed secretary to Lord Stormont, his brother-in-law, in the room of Horace St. Paul, Esq; at the court of Versailles, for which place he will set out in a few days.

Nov. 23. A letter from Dublin says, "Mr. Strettle, an eminent merchant here, has this day (November the 16th) received an account by one of his vessels, which arrived from America on the 14th, that his Majesty's forces under the command of General Clinton, having made good a landing, and got behind the Provincial army, made a signal to Gen. Sir William Howe, who immediately marched and attacked them in front, while he engaged them in the rear; that the rebels, with a surprising carnage, were totally routed, and that the King's forces lost but 300 men, without an officer of distinction. A postscript mentions the loss of the Provincials to amount to 7000, killed and made prisoners of war." [*This is one sample of the egregious falsehoods that are daily stuffed into the British papers, to keep up the spirits of the poor deluded people.*]

We are well informed that Mr. Dean had no public character at Paris, but that he was solely employed by the planters of Virginia and Maryland to negotiate an exclusive contract with the French court for all the Tobacco produced in those two colonies.

The success of the King's forces against the revolted provinces has been so rapid, and the panic which this success has struck through the rebels, is so universal, that had the court of Versailles or Madrid ever adopted the absurd ideas of encouraging their own colonies to rebel, by lending any assistance to ours, they must now abandon so weak a system of policy. For the operations of the late campaign, joined to the severity of the present winter, will most probably terminate the rebellion before the next spring, and then it will be a little of the latest for any European power to think of extending the least protection to "the disciples of Mr. Locke," as our factious writers

of the ships which were commissioned are to remain at the several ports where they are fitted out, but to take on board all their stores, and be ready for sea at 24 hours notice.

By his Excellency JOHN RUTLEDGE, *Esq; President and Commander in Chief of* SOUTH-CAROLINA;

A PROCLAMATION:

WHEREAS some evil disposed Persons have lately attempted to pass Counterfeit Money in this State: IN ORDER to put a Stop to such a pernicious Practice, I do hereby require all Magistrates to be vigilant and attentive in causing to be apprehended and conveyed to Gaol, for Trial, every Person who shall be accused of counterfeiting, or uttering, knowing them to be counterfeit, any of the Bills emitted by the Congress, or the Currency of this, or any other of the United States of America. AND I do promise a Reward of FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS to Informers against such Offenders, for every Person they shall inform against, to be paid on Conviction of the Offender in this State.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Seal of the said State, at Charlestown, this fourth Day of November, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and seventy six.

J. RUTLEDGE.

By his Excellency's Command,
JOHN HUGER, Secretary.

THE Constitutional Post-Office is removed from the Subscriber's House, to one of the Northern rooms of the Exchange, where constant attendance will be given from the hours of Nine to Twelve in the Forenoon, and Three to Five in the Afternoon; (Sundays excepted)

PETER BOUNETHEAU, P. M.

N. B. A Mail for the Northward will be made up on every Friday Noon, and for the Southward on every Saturday Morning.

BENJAMIN WALLER,

BEGS Leave to acquaint the Parents and Guardians of those young Ladies who have done School, but are still desirous to improve in their Writing, That as Miss Sody is attended at Home, he will take twelve more Ladies to teach with her, by Permission of Mrs. Sody, in Tradd-Street, next Door to Mrs. Dewar's.——He is also permitted to take a few to write only, at either Mrs. Stone's or Mrs. Cusack's Boarding Schools.

*** As there are many People in this Town, whose Circumstances will not permit them to educate their Daughters properly, nor are they yet so Necessitous as to procure them Admittance into Charity Schools; that the Education of such Children might not be totally neglected, he will give Attendance and Instruction three Mornings in a Week, *Gratis*, as soon as he is obliged with half a Dozen Applications.

JOHN WEBB and JAMES BENTHAM,
Having entered into Copartnership, under the Firm of
WEBB and *BENTHAM*,

PURPOSE to dispose of Dry Goods, Rum, Sugar, Negroes, Lands, Household Furniture, &c. by Auction, on the usual Terms. Those, Friends or others, who may be so obliging as to favour them with Commissions, may rely on their utmost Efforts for their Interest, and the strictest Punctuality in the Settlement of their Accounts. Their Counting-House is kept in Broad-Street, opposite Messr. Downes and Lee.

JOHN WEBB,
JAMES BENTHAM.

To be SOLD at Public Outcry,
On Tuesday the 2nd Inst. at the Plantation of the late Mr. George Inglis, deceased, at Saltketchers,

ALL the Stock of Cattle thereon, Horses, Hogs, Sheep, Plantation Tools, and Household Furniture: Also, about 300 Barrels of Rice, some Corn and Pease.

And on Tuesday the 29th Instant,

At the Plantation of the said Deceased at Stono, A Variety of Household and Kitchen Furniture, Plantation Tools, a Set of Blacksmith's Tools, Cattle, Horses, Hogs, and Sheep: Also a Pettiagua and two Canoes.

The Conditions of the Sales to be Cash before the Property is altered or removed.

ALEX INGLIS.
THO. INGLIS.

Charles-Town, April 1, 1777.

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SUPPLEMENT

To the Gazette of the State of *South-Carolina*. [No. 2055.]

Substance of Proceedings in the House of Commons of Great-Britain, from the 1st of Nov. 1776, to the 12th.

THE speaker being returned from attending the king in the House of Lords, read the speech twice in the house, when Mr. Neville rose and moved, "for an humble address to be presented to his Majesty." The substance of the address was read and the motion made for presenting it, and seconded by Mr. Hutton.

Lord John Cavendish opposed the motion, recapitulating the old grounds of opposition on the American subject, censuring the war itself as unjust, and the conduct of it as ineffectual and inhuman. His lordship produced an amendment to the address, which the speaker read to the house. It chiefly turned "upon a censure of the ministry, a desire that his majesty would order an enquiry into their conduct, and begged that the success of the war might be used moderately and prudently."

Gov. Johnstone arraigned the conduct of administration, not only blaming them for commencing the present War, but endeavouring to prove that they had as yet had no success, and that even the affair of Long-Island was no matter of triumph, as that island was a meer out-post to New-York, as New-York was an out-post to America, and that it would have been wrong for the provincials to to have attempted to maintain it. The governor paid general Howe and his brother very great compliments on their manœuvres in the capture of the island.

The governor complained of the defenceless state of the kingdom, and urged the danger of an immediate war with France and Spain. The minister's speech, which they had just heard, he declared to be a compound of ——hypocrisy. It talked of peace, at the moment when not only all Europe, but his kingdom, gave the most evident appearances of preparation for war. That part of it which talked of giving the Americans law and liberty, he conceived to be a meer turn of wit and humour, which would not bear a serious interpretation.

The governor spoke loudly of the falsehood of France, and the little reliance that was to be put on her professions, instancing a circumstance which happened while cardinal Mazarine was minister, when the Portuguese and Spaniards were at war together, and the latter had received repeated assurances of the pacific intentions of France, altho' that kingdom had actually lent Portugal troops, cloathed them, paid them, and officered them.

The governor said, he was far from being pleased with the Americans for their declarations in favour of independency, but he saw clearly, that they were *driven* to the measure by our vigorous persecution of them. We had foreign troops to fight against them, and they had no other [illegible] uring themselves on a footing with us, than by [illegible] off the yoke, declaring themselves independent, [illegible] ng foreign aid to defend them. They had, he [illegible] every possible means to avoid such a measure; [illegible] nt a most humble petition to government, pray- [illegible] and couched their prayer in the strongest terms of [illegible] allegiance; government had rejected their petition; [illegible] he mode of their declaring for independency was [illegible] in some measure indefensible.

[illegible] vernor censured the late issuing of press warrants, [illegible] red, that he was not only convinced a better mode [illegible] ng the navy might be found out, but that he was [illegible] the late press was carried on with irregularity and [illegible]

He stated the list of killed and wounded to the [illegible] house, declaring, that one of a press-gang was killed on board a merchant-man, through the temerity of the officer of the gang; that many, both seamen and men attempted to be pressed, were wounded, and fourteen persons drowned.

After having condemned the ministry, and painted the speech as ill-timed and fallacious, the governor gave his assent to the amendment proposed by Lord John Cavendish.

Mr. Wombwell rose to contradict the governor's assertions relative to the conduct of the press, and the death of the sailor shot; he declared, that he was well instructed to declare, that the mercantile part of the city in general, condemned the person who shot him, and were unanimously of opinion, that there never was a press better conducted than the present, nor more men obtained with less blood and tumult.

Mr. Wombwell spoke much in favour of government. He dissented from the proposed amendment.

Mr. Wilkes condemned the present war as one of the most unnatural and unjust that time had ever produced, and agreed to the proposed amendment.

Mr. Temple Luttrel spoke next, and from a great variety of historical precedents, proved, that in former times, in similar situations with the present state of our dispute with America, it had always been held politic to treat with the opponent parties, whether they were Rebels or not.

Mr. Thomas Townshend entered on the subject of the address, pronouncing it a farrago of deceit and hypocrisy. He said, we were on the point of a war with France, and were altogether in a defenceless state. That our army in England, and our army in Ireland, were contemptibly weak in point of numbers. That the serviceable part of our fleet, the frigates and small ships, were all on the coast of America; and therefore, if we were attacked, we were in a deplorable situation.

He attacked the Treasury Bench with great asperity, and (observing that Lord North had quitted the House) he took occasion to observe, that parliament was now treated by the minister with the utmost contempt; and that the first man in office considered a debate on the most serious and important subject, as a matter unworthy his consideration, and was better pleased in closeting a member in the morning, or whispering with a friend in the lobby in the evening, than in attending his parliamentary duty.

He said, that ministry had been most illiberal in encouraging their dependants in aspersing the officers who conducted the attack on Sullivant's island, and after speaking much in favour of Sir Peter Parker, he said, that general Clinton was the officer who had most reason to clear himself, for that he was informed, that general was nineteen days trying the ford, and that at last it turned out, he could not in all that time discover whether the ford was eighteen inches or seven feet deep.

Speaking of the capture of Long-island, he described the turning of the flank of an enemy's army as an ordinary military manœuvre, known to every man qualified in the art of war; and spoke of the slaughter of the provincials in cold blood, as an act of the most savage barbarity.

Seeing lord North come back to his seat, he returned to his attack on the treasury bench, and said, it had ever been the plan of the members who filled that seat, to conceal, as much as possible, intelligence from Parliament; that they kept that house continually in the dark. That even on that day, when it was usual for the house to consider it as a day of inquiry, and when it was expected that the minister should give some satisfaction on such questions as the members might think it necessary to put to him, the first man in office had with the utmost carelessness walked out of the House, and (as he till that moment imagined) being certain of a majority, had left the business of the nation to his clerks, supposing they had only to count and report the numbers. Mr. Townsend concluded with giving his assent to the amendment.

Lord North immediately rose, and said he thought himself called upon to say a few words, and that he chose to speak in that part of the debate, for fear the honourable house, if he spoke half an hour later, should forget the cause of his speaking; and for fear that the world should be told in an epigram, or a paragraph, that in a debate on the most important subject that perhaps ever would occur in that house, a debate which might possibly last fourteen hours, he had been absent ten minutes. He said, as a speaker, he might possibly be very deficient; but in point of attention to that house in general, and every individual member, he trusted no gentleman could charge him with neglect. This was the first time he ever knew that the particular behaviour of a member, was an object worthy animadversion, or that it was of any importance whether a gentleman went once to the door, or once returned to his seat in the course of a long debate. As, however, the last speaker had pictured his leaving his seat as a matter of infinite importance, he would trouble the house so far as to state to them why he left his seat. He had within the last hour received a letter, the subject of which required immediate attention, and as it would admit of no delay, he went out to answer it. The moment he had given the reply, he returned to his seat, and the whole time he had left the house, he found amounted to ten minutes. This he declared was the very great crime he had perpetrated; this was the foundation of the learned and ingenious argument of the last speaker. He trusted, however, that every gentleman present would acknowledge, that no member of that house was longer in his place—*He meant only his* place *in parliament.*—[This created a loud laugh] or sat with greater patience during a debate, than he did.

Having cleared himself from the charge of disrespect to the house, his lordship said, he was so far from desiring to conceal information from parliament, that he was always exceedingly ready to give every information that could be given with safety. He repeated the words "with safety," because he appealed to the house, whether the laying the letters government received at large before parliament, with the names of the writers, and the full contents, had not been attended with manifest inconvenience. That with regard to the questions which had now been agitated, he wished to give the most explicit answer. His Majesty in the speech said, he had the strongest assurances of pacific intentions of France and Spain, and yet he thought it necessary to prepare himself against a sudden attack. The assertion was founded on fact. It was true that Spain and Portugal had been for the last year on the point of differing about the frontiers of the Brazils, and that his majesty had interposed as a mediator, and endeavoured to accommodate the dispute between the two powers; that his mediation promised a happy accommodation, and, in all probability, the dispute would terminate amicably. It was also true, that France had for some time been busy in warlike preparations, and that she was now fitting out a small armament; he called it a small one, as he was well informed it only consisted of 6x ships of the line and four frigates. From the present assurances of the court of France, and those assurances were as strong as words could make them, that kingdom had no design to molest England. To prepare for the worst, however, his majesty had thought it right to be able to cope with any enemy. It had been said, that our frigates were all abroad; the assertion went too far; many were with lord Howe, but several were at home, and several were now building; and it was well known frigates were sooner built than larger shipping. We had twenty-three guardships, who were partly manned, and twelve more ships of the line ready for sea, all but the manning, and that would, his lordship doubted not, be soon effected. In fact, all our large ships were at home but two or three.

His lordship declared he verily believed France had not any intention of disturbing us; but he begged it to be understood, that he spoke only as to the present time. He was no prophet, and therefore he made no pretensions to a knowledge of futurity.

His lordship observed that an honourable gentleman had declared one part of his majesty's speech was certainly designed as a stroke of humour, as the sentence could not possibly carry a serious meaning. He begged to read the sentence. The words of it were, "my cause is to restore to them the blessings of law and liberty." This his lordship conceived was perfectly intelligible, and as sound logic as the English language could convey. Law and liberty were undoubtedly fled from America; *this* was the land of law and liberty. He thanked God the present debate proved it, proved that liberty of speech, that freedom of thought, that freedom of action existed here; and he begged to tell the gentleman, who had in the course of the debate thrown out so many severe reflections on administration, that it was well for them they were not in America, and had not used the same expressions against the Congress. They would then have found the difference between the two countries; they would have found, that both law and liberty were banished from America. His lordship declared he applauded the spirit of enquiry which actuated the gentlemen who thought differently from administration; and although he was in consequence the frequent object of their attack, he wished it might continue.

His lordship denied that our troops, or those employed by us, had massacred any of the Rebels in cold blood, and particularly cleared the Hessians from the aspersion, proving that 400 of the prisoners were taken by the Hessians. His lordship said, that in the heat of battle some of the rebels might first fire, then run and cry out quarter; that some of these might possibly have been put to the bayonet, but, he conceived, no man would throw out a general censure on account of a particular accident.

After having spoke with great fervour and plainness to every part of the debate in which he recollected that the minister had been called upon; his lordship begged pardon of the house for having taken up so much of their time about himself; he said, he rejected the amendment, as it tended to desire his majesty to set on foot an endless and ill-timed enquiry, to procrastinate events, which, in all probability, would soon be produced, and to render fruitless every operation which had taken place; he concluded with declaring, that it had ever been his wish, and that of every other servant of the king, to bring matters to as early a conclusion, and with as little bloodshed as possible; to use the present successes, and the victory, if it was gained, with prudence and moderation, and rather as a means of cementing a lasting union and amity, than as objects of triumph or instruments for forging chains of slavery, and excuses for tyranny and oppression.

Colonel Barré next rose, and said that he had a question to put, of the first consequence, of the most serious importance, to which the noble Lord (North) had wholly neglected to speak. In order to give him an opportunity of speaking to it, he would therefore then put it, and sit down, without proceeding further, that the noble Lord might give the house that satisfaction which he doubted not many of them wished to receive. The question was, "What powers were General and Lord Howe invested with, as his Majesty's commissioners, to treat with America."

Lord North immediately said, that their commission had lately been published in the Gazette, and that nothing relative to the business had been concealed. His Lordship read part of the commission, and said he knew of nothing more, unless indeed some directions relative to private ones.

Col. Barré, pulling a paper out of his pocket, declared, he had in his hand an account of what passed at the conference between lieutenant colonel Paterson and general Washington, when colonel Paterson was dispatched with general lord Howe's letter; that the account was printed in America, but that it bore evident marks of authenticity, although indeed it did not come directly to his hands for he could positively say, that no letter directed to him, and sent from America, ever reached him. He then proceeded to comment on the account in his hand, declaring his high esteem for colonel Paterson, with whom he had the happiness to be acquainted, and asserting, that he was a man of the first honour in the service. He said the account he was going to read did col. Paterson infinite credit. The account was extracted from an American paper, printed at Pennsylvania on the 27th of July last, and stated, that colonel Paterson was received by general Washington, on the 20th of the same month, with the greatest politeness. That the colonel addressed Mr. Washington with the title of Excellency. That he expressed general and lord Howe's concern that there should have been any deficiency in point of respect and punctilio; that no affront was intended by the general; who begged his excellency to recollect, that he had received a letter from his excellency about the treatment of the prisoners in Boston, superscribed "To "the honourable Wm. Howe, Esq;" and that the general then took no offence; that both general and lord Howe had the highest personal regard for Mr. Washington; that they had now sent a letter directed for "George Washington, Esq; &c. &c. &c." and that they hoped all difficulties were removed, as the three *et cæteras* might be understood to comprehend all his excellency's titles; and that he begged leave to inform his excellency, that the letter he now brought was the same as his majesty's commissioners had sent before, but which had been returned on account of the deficiency of the superscription, respecting his excellency's titles.

It appeared further, from the account the colonel read, that colonel Paterson laid down the letter on a table; that Mr. Washington declined to accept it, asking what powers the general and lord Howe were invested with, declaring that he had read the last act of parliament relative to America, and found by that, that they were merely empowered to grant pardons; that he then said, "the Americans had done no wrong, and therefore wanted no pardons;" that Mr. Washington declared he had reported to the congress his return of the letter as first sent, with his reasons for so doing; that the congress had approved of his conduct, he could not therefore enter into a fresh treaty without fresh authority; besides, though it was true that the three *et cæteras* now added to the superscription of the letter, might mean every thing, it was also true that it might mean any thing. After more conversation, in which colonel Paterson exculpated general Howe from the charge of having treated the prisoners he had taken with inhumanity, and Mr. Washington also declared, that he had used such as fell under his cognizance with every possible indulgence, the account stated, that the conference ended; that general Washington invited the colonel to partake of a collation, which he had provided; that the colonel declined it, urging his having but lately breakfasted, and the impatience of general and lord Howe to receive an answer to their letter.

The colonel then pounced like an eagle on the [illegible] dous part of his subject, the appearance of a war in Europe, and told the house, that a war of the most serious kind threatened this country, a war from the united powers of France and Spain. That the attack would shortly be made, and made within the hearing of those who sat within the walls that then encircled the house [this created a general laugh, which seemed to hurt the colonel much, and he instantly said] "Gentlemen may laugh, but I aver, that those who laugh now, will, in the moment of danger, be lying in tears on their backs like cowards." He then declared, that France was full two months before

hand with us in preparation, that we were in fact defenceless, unable to make any resistance should the foe begin: that the noble lord shifted his ground so often, that there was no dependance on his information; that even now he had said, he relied on the present assurances of the pacific intentions of France, but that he did not know how soon she might alter her intention.

This called up lord North, who repeated what he had said in the first the subject of his speech, and again declared, that he firmly believed the assurances of the court of Versailles, but as he was no prophet, he would not positively say that France might not hereafter change her intention. Lord North complained of having his words watched, and thrown perpetually in his teeth.

Colonel Barré seemed not to like a refutation of the matter of fact of his assertion, and declared he ever would watch the minister; that it was extraordinary indeed, if the noble Lord high in office, and ostensible minister, expected his words would not be watched; he protested he would continue to watch him, and report his words on every fit occasion; but he promised to do it always like a gentleman and a man of honour, with truth and accuracy; that the day was not yet come, when an enquiry must be made into the cause of the American war; that, he was sorry to tell the noble lord, if matters did not then appear satisfactory, his head would be laid on the block. That the situation of affairs were tremendous; that this country seemed to be near the crisis of her fate; he advised the treasury bench therefore to look about them, and as there was one question which demanded an immediate answer, he would then put it;

"Had the king's ministers information of a particular species of armament preparing by the French in those ports of France which were immediately opposite, and nearest to this kingdom?"

The question, he trusted, was clear and comprehensive. If it was not answered, the silence of the ministry would operate in his mind as fully as any answer they could give; if they had not the necessary information, they were not fit for their posts, and ought to hold them no longer.

Upon the whole, the colonel made it out, that we were by no means a match for the united force of France and Spain; he therefore desired the ministry would, at any rate, make up matters with America. "Recal, therefore, (says he) your fleets and armies from America, and leave the brave colonists to the enjoyment of their liberty." [This created a second laugh, which the colonel took worse than the first, and was by it roused to fresh wrath.]

He arraigned the want of manners of the treasury-bench, and declared he thought professed courtiers had been better bred; he then again denounced vengeance, and bid the ministry appoint proper officers; the first, he said, ought to be commanded by a brave man then in the house, an admiral who had once already saved his country; the admiral he meant was his honourable friend near him, admiral Keppel; he said he knew he was out of order in naming a member, but on such an occasion he thought himself justified in mentioning so brave an officer.

At length having held up a most tremendous picture of impending mischief to his country, he repeated his question to the treasury bench, and sat down, deploring the infatuation of government, and asserting, that a majority of votes in that house would never conquer France and Spain, however they might procure the minister a momentary triumph, and make him a welcome guest at St. James's.

Admiral Keppel, merely shewed the defenceless state of the kingdom from her unprepared navy.

Mr. Fox was ardent against administration, but endeavoured to rescue General Clinton from the censure which had been thrown out on him.

At half after eleven the house divided on the previous question, moved on the amended motion, when the numbers were, for the question 242; against it 87. They then divided again on the motion for the address, when the numbers were, for the motion 239; against it 83.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *Nov.* 6.

The house waited a short time for Lord North, and upon his arrival Lord John Cavendish rose with a newspaper in his hand, and desired the attention of the house to a subject of very great moment: he then mentioned that a declaration, said to be by his Majesty's commissioners in America, General Howe and Lord Howe, and signed by them, had appeared in this; and all the papers of the day, which his Lordship was in some doubt about, and wished to know first, from authority, whether he was to consider it as an authentic paper avowed by government before he proceeded to complain of it.

Lord North, thus called upon, said he believed it to be an authentic paper. Lord George Germaine said the same; and then Lord John Cavendish proceeded. He complained of the extreme negligence of the ministry in not publishing this declaration either in the extraordinary gazette of Monday morning, or in the common gazette of Tuesday night; it appeared to him, from this conduct, that the ministry wished only to communicate to parliament or to the public, the successful operations of the war, and to conceal from both as long as possible any overtures, however poor, of conciliation, to which they were so averse. His Lordship was glad, however tardy, to see some disposition on the part of administration to offer peace to America, and he thought the only way to give effect to this declaration was, for that house to enter immediately into the views of it, and to concur with his Majesty in his gracious offer made to the Americans of pardoning all acts of parliament by which his subjects there may think themselves aggrieved; and after reflecting on the intentional concealment of this declaration, by not publishing it in the gazette, his Lordship made the following motion: That this house will, on a certain day, resolve itself into a committee of the whole house for the purpose of all those acts of parliament by which his Majesty's subjects in America think themselves aggrieved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Burke, and a warm debate ensued.

Lord North objected to the motion, observing that the declaration had issued from the council, and was most certainly a very merciful and gracious offer on the part of the crown, but he should not enter into the discussion of it. As to the not publishing it in the gazette, he did not know that it was owing to neglect, but he was well assured no contempt of parliament was, or could be meant by not publishing immediately all the advices received from New-York: his Lordship remarked that the declaration was publicly agreeable to the sentiments of both houses in their address to the throne upon the speech; that the first opportunity had been embraced by the Admiral and the General to declare the King's most gracious intentions; and that now they had been made known publicly at New-York, by these his commissioners, who had been authorised by an act of parliament to restore peace to his Majesty's colonies in North-America, it would be a very ridiculous measure indeed to take the negociation, already begun, out of the hands of the commissioners, to bring it back again to discussion in that house, and thereby not only to retard, but perhaps to prevent the happy effect it might speedily have.

Mr. Charles Fox answered the minister. He said that the conduct of administration was perfectly consistent, for throughout the whole fatal American dispute, they had treated that house with the utmost contempt; he was always with the majority of the house in one point, though not upon other occasions, in supporting the dignity and privileges of the British house of commons, which in almost every measure relative to America had been shamefully violated. He remarked, that the success of the war against America was readily communicated both to parliament and to the public, in an authentic official manner, but the negociations for peace, in which they were more deeply interested, as the welfare of this country more immediately depended on them, were concealed, as if the ministers were ashamed to own, as well they might, that after all the expences, and after all the bloodshed in this unhappy contest, they are obliged in the end to offer those very conditions, to which they had turned a deaf ear when proposed by the Americans some years since. For what was the purport of their petitions, of their remonstrances, which you refused to hear, but that you would redress their grievances by a repeal (for as to revisal, it is an equivocal term) of all the acts of parliament by which they thought themselves aggieved? But you did not then think they were aggrieved, therefore you rejected their petitions, and now, after all your victories, you return to an offer of revising these oppressive acts; and the royal instructions to the governors in North-America are likewise to be revised. Is not this a plain acknowledgment, that there were many things in them injurious to the freedom of American legislation? He therefore highly approved of the motion, and thought it would greatly forward the reconciliation, by shewing the Americans, that the two other branches of the legislature concurred with his Majesty in the declaration made by his commissioners.

The Solicitor-general replied: He seemed to think the motion brought in by surprise, and to have been the joint result of a conversation on Tuesday night at the opera, and of the declaration printed in the morning in the common news-papers; he believed most of the members expected little or no business to be done, and it was only late in the day he heard some extraordinary motion was to be made. He opposed the motion, and warmly justified all the measures pursued against America, declared it was incompatible with the honour of that house, to go into such a committee, now America had assumed independency; he asserted, that the declaration was in fact, that of both houses of parliament, and founded on their own act, appointing the commissioners: He stated the ill policy of having misrepresentations of the proceedings of the house sent over to America) and said, if once it was known there, that the parliament instead of letting the commission operate, which commission was founded on their own act last session, entered into a full discussion of the conditions offered by the declaration, it would prevent all the good effects that might be expected from it.

Mr. Burke answered the honourable member. He entered at large into the American contest—recapitulated and arraigned the conduct of the ministry from first to last, and amongst other things he said, after having been massacred first by the Hessians and then by lawyers, they now talk of a revisal of the acts they had complained of seven years ago; after burning their towns and ruining their commerce, the ministry cry out, "Come unto me all ye that are heavy laden, and I will give you rest,"—but what sort of rest? YOU SHALL HAVE MAGISTRATES NOT OF YOUR OWN CHOOSING, TAXES WITHOUT YOUR ASSENT, AND LAWS MADE FOR YOU IN ENGLAND!

Mr. Burke complained bitterly of some expressions in the proclamation for the general fast; he said the purposes of religion were to be inverted; for we were to go to church in an impious manner, to accuse our American brethren of being deluded into acts of treason by specious falsehoods. This he condemned as blasphemous, and converting the house of God into the tabernacle of Satan. He was called to order, but afterwards proceeded, justified the resistance of the Americans, but not their declared independance—but the blame of it he laid to the door of the ministry, in delaying so long to send out commissioners to receive the submission of those who were willing to return to their allegiance; and in leaving even the friends of government unprotected.—He also made administration accountable for all the blood that had been shed, and all the horrors of the war; these were the sins we were to atone for, and to deprecate the wrath of heaven by a general fast; and surely no people ever had more reason to humble themselves before God.

Mr. Rous, the new member for Shaftesbury, spoke against the motion, and especially against the impropriety of it at this time.

Lord George Germaine apologized for not inserting general Howe's declaration in the Gazette: The ship that brought it came to Falmouth; he only got it on Monday morning; and as it was but part of a negociation, he thought it of no great consequence to the public. He did not understand that the preliminary negociations of any peace, before they came to any effect, had been made public by former ministers; he was sure the conference between Mr. Huffy and lord Chatham were never put into the gazette.

He justified the declaration, and stated the absurdity of agreeing to go into a committee on a subject that had been already discussed, and an act passed to enable the commissioners to make the present declaration; his Lordship added, that such a measure would certainly put a stop to the negociation happily begun by the commissioners, who would not dare to proceed, if they found parliament had taken it out of their hands.

Mr. Dunning replied chiefly to the Solicitor-general and to Lord George. He told the former, that he had not been at the opera on Tuesday night to collect intelligence of the intended motion, nor had he seen the newspapers, but attending his professional duty on the first day of term, he had been apprised of it, and thought it his duty to give it his support.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *Nov.* 7.

The house of commons resolves itself into a grand committee of supply, at a little after three o'clock, Sir Charles Whitworth in the chair; the gallery doors being locked, and no strangers whatever admitted.

Mr. Buller moved for 45 000 seamen for the service of the year 1777, including 10.129 marines. This being seconded, a debate ensued; Mr. Temple Luttrell did not oppose the motion, but complained in strong terms of the mal-administration of our naval affairs; alledging, that notwithstanding the liberal supplies granted last year, the fleets had not protected our trade, nor any naval force sent in proper time to the different stations where they were most wanted; that this bulwark of our national defence was shamefully neglected at home, and we were not now in a proper state of defence; in short, he thought the conduct of the first lord of the admiralty so highly culpable, that he should move the house to address his majesty to remove him from the head of the admiralty.

The Attorney general supported the motion for the supply; seemed to give little credit to Mr. Luttrell's complaint; thought the operations of our naval force a flat contradiction to his assertions, but that at all events the intended motion for an address was improper, the house being in a committee. Mr. T. Townshend, joined issue with Mr. Luttrell as to the bad management of our naval affairs. Lord North rose to justify lord Sandwich; he said he had been a very good servant to the public; that he was well assured nothing would please the noble lord so much as a proper enquiry into his conduct, because he well knew it would turn out greatly to his honour.

Lord Palmerstone, as one of the lords of the admiralty, thought himself called upon by Mr. Luttrell, and Mr. Townshend's remarks, to vindicate the conduct of the first lord of the board; and this he did in expatiating on the great care and expedition that had been used in fitting out the fleets for different stations, in granting convoys the moment they were required, and the humanity of deferring press-warrants, till the obstinacy of the seamen in refusing to enter voluntarily had made them necessary.

The resolution being then put, it passed; as also another for allowing 4 l. per month for the maintenance and wages of every seaman.

Mr. Luttrell then moved for an account of the number and force of the ships in commission in Great-Britain and Ireland.

The Attorney-general objected to this as highly improper at this critical juncture, because it might be conveyed to the maritime powers now arming, and be of bad consequence both at home and abroad.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *Nov.* 12.

Lord Barrington presented to the house an estimate of the artillery for the service of the troops for the year 1777.

As soon as Lord North came, the house went into a committee of the whole house on the land tax, when his lordship spoke nearly as follows:

Lord North. From the situation of this kingdom, and the supplies necessary to carry on a war in order to support its legislative authority— From the various operations in America, that will necessarily call for the aid and assistance of Great-Britain, as well as to support her internal demands, I presume no gentleman will object to the proposal of raising four shillings in the pound as a land-tax, towards defraying the expences of the state; or rather a continuance of the former resolution of this house of the preceding year.

The motion was then read—"That this house do come to a resolution to grant a land-tax of four shillings in the pound, towards the services of the year 1777."—As many as were for the motion were desired to say aye, and the against it were requested to say no. Not one negative being pronounced, and the house readily acquiescing in the demand, a few words were spoken by Mr. Vyner.

Mr. Vyner. I do not rise, Sir Charles Whitworth, to oppose a 4s. land-tax; far from it, for I cannot approve the war at present carried on against the rebels in America, without approving the means which are necessary to that end: But, Sir, I cannot let an opportunity of so great weight pass, without saying a few words upon the purpose for which this land tax is to be granted. Sir, I mean particularly to confine myself to the object of *taxation*. I wish the members of this house to have always in mind what ought to be, and I hope is the object of the war, the *taxation of America*: let this great point, Sir, be held in mind; and let no one imagine, that *this object*,—that *this design* is dropped. Sir, to drop such a design would be to drop the great *end* and *origin* of the war. For what have we entered into this war? Did we enter into it for a breach of the navigation-act? No: It was the riotous refusal to pay legal and just taxes, which occasioned the war; and if we are not now engaged in it with an eye to that great origin of it, I hold that we are only squandering our money for no purpose whatever, but to make ourselves ridiculous. At the same time, Sir, I express my chearfulness in consenting to the proposed tax; let me add, that I hope, while the nation thus grants its money liberally, the ministry will spend it frugally; that is and ought to be essential to the conduct of such a war. I am led into this observation from a slight anecdote which came to my knowledge.——I was lately with a very great seedsman, and among other things, enquiring about cabbage-seed, I learned that no less than three tons of that seed were sent to America; the quantity appeared to me so large—so perfectly ridiculous, that I asked the man how much land three tons would sow? He told me, it was sufficient to sow all the land betwixt this and York: Another contract was for 3 cwt. of onion-seed, which appears to the full as preposterous as the other. These things may be necessary, but they cannot be necessary in such quantities. Before I sit down, let me say one word upon voting the land-tax so early; I never knew the land tax voted before the army; for suppose, Sir, the vote for that on Friday next is disagreed to; can four shillings be necessary? I won't imagine that it really will be rejected;—it would be madness; but consistency should be preserved in the whole conduct of such business.

Lord North. I heartily agree with the honourable member, that frugality is perfectly essential in the conduct of such a war as this, and I flatter myself, that considering how expensive the war necessarily must be; that useless expences will not be found. As to the matter of the seed, they were ordered by desire of the commander in chief; the quantity I am not certain of, but believe not to be so large as the honourable member represents; however I will enquire into the affair. Relative to the time of voting the land-tax, must inform him, that it is usually done when two millions are voted, which is already done for the navy;—were it not for this, I should suppose it impossible, in the present situation of affairs, not to vote the army.

Mr. Vyner acquiesced in this account; and the resolution passed.